

Amendments to the Written Description

Please replace the first paragraph on page 5, which begins at line 2, with the following paragraph:

[A1] The present invention is directed to methods and compositions for detecting compounds or molecules that have specific biological effects and that may be useful as therapeutic agents. In particular, the present invention is directed to methods and compositions for detecting compounds or molecules that ~~effect~~ affect inflammation. More particularly, the present invention is directed to methods and compositions for detecting compounds or molecules that are effective in inhibiting inflammation caused by the accumulation or presence of glycated proteins or AGE. The present invention also provides compositions for and methods of treatment for biological conditions including, but not limited to, vascular complications of type I and type II diabetic-induced vasculopathies, other vasculopathies, angiopathy, myocarditis nephritis, arthritis, coronary artery disease, microangiopathies, renal insufficiency, Alzheimer's syndrome, and inflammation induced diseases including, but not limited to, atherosclerosis.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9, which begins at line 8, with the following paragraph:

[A2] In another embodiment of the present invention, a composition suspected of ~~effecting~~ affecting inflammation is added to cells which are then treated with a stimulatory agent. The stimulatory agent may also be added prior to or simultaneously with the composition suspected of ~~effecting~~ affecting inflammation. The cells respond by producing specific determinants of inflammation. The amount of these determinants can be measured by methods known to those skilled in the art and compared to the amount of determinants produced by cells which are treated with the

stimulating agent and not the composition suspected of ~~effecting~~ affecting inflammation. The compound may have a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, a stabilizing effect, or no effect at all.

Please replace the first full paragraph on Page 10, which begins at line 3, with the following paragraph.

[A3] In another embodiment of the present invention, a composition suspected of ~~effecting~~ affecting the accumulation of AGE or glycated protein is added to cells which are also treated with a glycated protein. The glycated protein can be added prior to, subsequently to or simultaneously with the composition suspected of ~~effecting~~ affecting accumulation of AGE or glycated protein. The cells respond by producing specific determinants of AGE or glycated protein accumulation. The amount of these determinants can be measured by methods known to those skilled in the art and compared to the amount of determinants produced by cells which are treated with the stimulating agent and not the composition suspected of ~~effecting~~ affecting AGE or glycated protein accumulation. The compound may have a stimulating effect, an inhibitory effect, a stabilizing effect, or no effect at all.